

Health News Release

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State disciplines health care providers

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 80 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Look up a healthcare provider license" in the "How Do I?" section of the Department of Health website (doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Benton County

In July 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program entered an agreement with certified nursing assistant **David James Sproles** (NC60176547) that requires him to participate in a substance abuse monitoring program. Sproles tampered with patients' narcotic pain patches at a facility where he worked, before and after he was dismissed. He refused to answer a Department of Health investigator's questions, citing his Fifth Amendment right not to incriminate himself.

In July 2014 the Denturists Board charged denturist **Jenifer Ann Wright** (DN00000472) with unprofessional conduct. Wright allegedly didn't supply a new set of dentures to a patient who paid for them.

Clark County

In July 2014 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with registered nurse **Melissa R. Cummings** (RN00165986) that places her credential on probation and requires her to enroll in a substance abuse monitoring program. Cummings didn't comply with a 2013 stipulation that required her to enroll in a substance abuse monitoring program.

Grays Harbor County

In July 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Tania F.**

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Walters (NA60196498) with unprofessional conduct. In 2013 Walters allegedly didn't pass a drug test, and admitted using marijuana as well as illegally using prescription drugs without a prescription.

Island County

In July 2014 the Marriage and Family Therapist Program ended probation for marriage and family therapist **Jerome G. Rosen** (LF00001406).

King County

In June 2014 the Massage Program denied a massage practitioner credential to **Zheping Chen** (MA60413164). She doesn't meet the educational requirements, and also submitted application documents under another applicant's name.

In July 2014 the Dental Commission charged dentist **Louis S. Delorie** (DE00005244) with unprofessional conduct. Delorie allegedly provided substandard care in applying a crown to a patient's tooth.

In July 2014 the Chiropractic Commission ended probation for chiropractor **Shawn Gabriel Jonas** (CH00003146).

In July 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program reinstated the chemical dependency professional trainee credential of **Shakun Nandeshwar Sharma** (CO60294692) and placed her on probation. She must remain enrolled in a substance abuse monitoring program, and complete course work in professional law and ethics. Sharma's credential was suspended in May 2014 when she didn't comply with a 2013 stipulation requiring her to undergo evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program.

In July 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant and certified nursing assistant **Probhjit K. Hehar** (NA60259726, NC60331901) with unprofessional conduct. Hehar allegedly fell asleep while on duty as the sole caregiver at an adult family home, leaving residents unattended.

In July 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Kristi D. Richardson** (RN00089469) with unprofessional conduct. While working as the director of nursing at an assisted living facility, she allegedly took containers of controlled substances and gave a false answer when asked if there were any such substances for disposal.

In July 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Angel C. Perez** (NC10003836) with unprofessional conduct. Perez worked at a nursing facility that housed a severely disabled resident. Facility policy required two staff members to be on hand when using a device to lift the resident. Perez allegedly attempted to use the device by himself to lift the resident, during which the resident slipped to the floor. The resident sustained a broken femur. Charges say Perez allegedly didn't report the incident accurately and honestly which delayed correct identification of the resident's injuries. Perez allegedly claimed he had assistance in using the device and badgered another worker to support his story. After finding that Perez had

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neglected a vulnerable adult, the Department of Social and Health Services will not allow him to be employed in caring for or having unsupervised access to vulnerable adults.

Pierce County

In July 2014 the Dental Commission charged dentist **Roy Stuart Schwartz** (DE00004130) with unprofessional conduct. For about five years, Schwartz allegedly used his federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) registration to order and buy controlled substances for another dentist who had no registration. Charges say Schwartz knew the other dentist had no registration, and allowed the non-registered dentist to move the controlled substances to locations where Schwartz had no doctor-patient relationships. By misrepresenting facts, Schwartz allegedly obstructed federal and state investigations. Charges say he didn't store controlled substances properly or keep an adequate inventory and records. The DEA suspended Schwartz's registration for a year and restricted it until he completes additional education.

In July 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional credential to **John Lawrence Churchward** (CP60437986), who in 2012 was conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential.

Skagit County

In July 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Leah M. Jones** (NC60014568) with unprofessional conduct. Jones hasn't responded to an investigator's inquiry into a complaint alleging she diverted controlled substances from an assisted living facility where she worked.

In July 2014 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with registered nurse **Erin Lynn Linvog** (RN60245004) that requires her to enroll in a substance abuse monitoring program. In 2013 Linvog was convicted of tampering with consumer goods and acquiring controlled substances by misrepresentation, fraud, or deception.

Snohomish County

In July 2014 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Adrienne Kawamura** of its intent to issue a cease-and-desist order. Kawamura, who owns a cat grooming salon, allegedly practiced veterinary dentistry without a license.

In July 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program ended probation for chemical dependency professional trainee **Vynessa Lenai Gray** (CO60282500).

Spokane County

In July 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program reinstated the registered nursing assistant credential of **Brianna Justice** (NA00187876). Her license was suspended in 2010. Justice was charged with second-degree theft and second-degree identity theft after using a patient's debit card without permission to withdraw \$404.

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In July 2014 the Chiropractic Commission ended conditions on the credential of chiropractor **Kevin L. Bond** (CH00001649).

In July 2014 the Hearing and Speech Board ended probation for hearing instrument fitter and dispenser **Scott A. Williams** (HA00002083).

In July 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional credential to **David Floyd Russell** (CP60455259) and placed him on probation. In 2012 Russell was conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential and placed on probation for three years.

Thurston County

In July 2014 the Medical Assistant Program conditionally granted a certified medical assistant credential to **Whitney Alexandria Jordan** (CM60467553), who in 2011 was convicted of first-degree theft.

In July 2014 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Xianbo Gao** of its intent to issue a cease-and-desist order. Gao allegedly practiced massage therapy and/or reflexology without a license.

In July 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Robin N. Johnson** (RN60290593) with unprofessional conduct. Johnson worked as a home health nurse caring for a severely developmentally disabled non-verbal adult. Charges say that several times Johnson took the patient to her own home, bound and secluded the patient, and left the patient unattended, sometimes leaving the house for hours.

Out of State

Montana: In July 2014 the Chiropractic Commission ended conditions on the credential of chiropractor **Philip F. Aumann** (CH00002040).

Note to Editors: Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

The <u>Department of Health website</u> (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, <u>find us on Facebook</u> and <u>follow us on Twitter</u>.